

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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O 211720Z JAN 76 ZFF-4

FM USDEL SECRETARY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR,UR

SUBJECT: OVIP (KISSINGER HENRY A)

1. THERE FOLLOWS VERBATIM TEXT OF GROMYKO'S TOAST AT HIS LUNCH FOR THE SECRETARY JANUARY 21 AS TRANSCRIBED BY EMBASSY STENOGRAPHER FROM TRANSLATION BY SOVIET INTERPRETER.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

I SHOULD LIKE FIRST TO GREET THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND ALL OUR OTHER AMERICAN GUESTS PRESENT AT THIS TABLE.

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE JUST TWO OR THREE POINTS. TODAY THERE WAS A MEETING BETWEEN THE GENERAL SECRETARY LEONID BREZHNEV, WITH MY PARTICIPATION, AND WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES. DURING TODAY'S MEETING THE THOUGHT WAS VOICED IN A VERY CLEARCUT WAY ON THE NEED TO CONTINUE BY BOTH SIDES THE LINE THAT HAS BEEN FORMULATED IN RECENT YEARS, THE LINE THAT HAS FOUND EXPRESSION IN SOVIET-AMERICAN ACCORDS, AND THIS IN ITSELF IS OF IMMENSE SIGNIFICANCE. THIS IS INDEED THE MAIN THEME-- TO REMAIN TRUE TO THE FUNDAMENTAL LINE THAT HAS TAKEN PRECEDENCE IN RECENT YEARS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND TO THIS I TRUST YOU WILL ALL AGREE, SINCE IT IS LOOKED UPON WITH FAVOR BY THE PEOPLE OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND INDEED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD AND WE TRUST THAT LINE WILL CONTINUE IN FUTURE AS WELL.

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THERE ARE OF COURSE CERTAIN FORCES WHO DO NOT SHARE

THESE ASSESSMENTS OF THE STATE OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS BUT, OBJECTIVELY SPEAKING, I BELIEVE THAT THIS FACT MERELY SERVES TO EMPHASIZE THE CORRECTNESS OF THE ASSESSMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN AND ARE BEING GIVEN FOR THE POSITIVE CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS, AND I DO BELIEVE THERE IS NO NEED TO BE ANY MORE SPECIFIC AS TO WHOM WE ARE ADDRESSING.

SECONDLY, THERE ARE QUITE A FEW PROBLEMS THAT ARE THE OBJECT OF DISCUSSIONS AND EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON THESE PROBLEMS WHICH ARE OF INTEREST TO OUR COUNTRIES AND INDEED TO THE ENTIRE WORLD. THERE ARE SEVERAL SUCH PROBLEMS BUT IT WOULD AT THE SAME TIME BE CORRECT TO SAY THAT MAJOR ATTENTION HAS BEEN AND WILL BE DEVOTED IN THIS MEETING TO THE QUESTION OF THE ELABORATION OF A NEW AGREEMENT ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC ARMS BY THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION. THIS IS INDEED A MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE AND GENERAL SECRETARY LEONID BREZHNEV ONCE AGAIN STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS PROBLEM.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES ALSO SPOKE OF THIS. PRESIDENT FORD, TOO, HAS SPOKEN OF THIS ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION. THE SOVIET UNION IS FIRMLY IN FAVOR OF THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNDERSTANDING ACHIEVED AT VLADIVOSTOK AND IS IN FAVOR OF THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF OUR DISCUSSIONS AND THE ELABORATION ON THE BASIS OF THAT AGREEMENT OF A NEW ACCORD BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS. IT IS A RISKY BUSINESS INDEED IN POLITICS TO INDULGE IN PROGNOSTICATION. ONE CAN OF COURSE HIT THE MARK BUT ONE CAN ALSO MAKE ERRORS. SO I WOULD THEREFORE NOT LIKE TO USE WORDS SUCH AS "CERTAINTY", "I AM CERTAIN," OR "I AM CONVINCED" OF THIS OR THAT. I WOULD MERELY LIKE TO SAY THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP AND GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV PERSONALLY EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THESE DISCUSSIONS WILL SIGNIFY A STEP AND, BETTER STILL, A SERIOUS STEP FORWARD TOWARDS THE COMPLETION OF WORK ON THE NEW ACCORD WHICH I HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO. IT IS OUR VERY STRONG DESIRE TO SEE THIS ACCORD NEGOTIATED, PREPARED AND SIGNED.

THIRDLY, A GREAT DEAL HAS BEEN SAID AND WRITTEN--AND MUCH MORE HAS BEEN WRITTEN, I SUPPOSE--ABOUT VARIOUS SOVIET-AMERICAN AGREEMENTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIGNED IN RECENT YEARS. THE SOVIET UNION AND, INsofar AS WE KNOW, THE UNITED STATES TOO, BELIEVE THAT ALL THAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED TO DATE HAS BEEN CORRECT. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REEMPHASIZE THAT OUR STATE AND THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP WILL DO ALL IN ITS POWER TO INSURE THAT ALL THESE ACCORDS ARE IMPLEMENTED IN FULL AND IN ALL THEIR PARTS. WE KNOW AT TIMES THAT ONE AGREEMENT OR ANOTHER HAS BECOME THE TARGET OF CRITICISM OR CRITICAL REMARKS LEVELED AT THEM BY CERTAIN CIRCLES FREQUENTLY FOR CONSIDERATIONS

WHICH

HAVE NO RELATION TO THE ACTUAL CONTENT OF THOSE AGREEMENTS. THE SOVIET UNION, AS A PARTY TO THOSE AGREEMENTS, BELIEVES THAT THE LEADERSHIP OF BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION SHOULD, SO TO SAY, REMAIN STRONGWILLED AND DISPLAY THEIR WILL AND THEIR RESOLVE TO GIVE NO ONE ANY CHANCE OF SHAKING OR EVEN MORE OF TOPPLING THOSE ACCORDS, AND SHOULD DO ALL THEY CAN TO INSURE THEIR COMPLETE IMPLEMENTATION HENCEFORTH AS WELL AS NOW.

AND THAT IS THE WAY IN WHICH THE SOVIET UNION INTENDS TO ACT. IT IS UP TO THE UNITED STATES TO SAY WHAT THEIR INTENTION IS IN THAT REGARD. WE WILL OF COURSE WELCOME IT IF THEY ACT LIKEWISE.

TO THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN STARTED HERE IN MOSCOW TODAY;

TO THE EXPECTATION OF THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN VARIOUS SPHERES;

TO COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES IN THE INTERESTS OF STRENGTHENING THE PEACE AND NATIONAL DETENTE;

TO YOUR HEALTH, MR. SECRETARY OF STATE, AND TO THE HEALTH OF ALL OTHER AMERICAN GUESTS PRESENT AT THIS TABLE, AND GOOD HEALTH TO ALL THOSE PRESENT, BOTH AMERICANS AND SOVIETS;

I ASK YOU TO JOIN ME.

END TEXT. STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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